

INTERIOR SUBCOMMITTEE, SPENDING TOTALS—
CONFERENCE REPORT—Continued

[Fiscal year 1996, in millions of dollars]

	Budget authority	Outlays
Adjusted bill total	12,299	13,265
Senate Subcommittee 602(b) allocation:		
Defense discretionary	12,235	13,210
Nondefense discretionary		
Violent crime reduction trust fund	65	55
Mandatory	12,300	13,265
Adjusted bill total compared to Senate Sub-		
committee 602(b) allocation:		
Defense discretionary		
Nondefense discretionary	-1	-0
Violent crime reduction trust fund		
Mandatory		
Total allocation	-1	-0

Note: Details may not add to totals due to rounding. Totals adjusted for consistency with current scorekeeping conventions.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for 1 additional minute past the 2 o'clock time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I believe the Senator has 2 minutes under his control, at any rate.

Mr. GORTON. Fine.

Mr. President, one of the finer customs of the Senate, one of the customs that makes it work in contentious times better than might otherwise be the case, is the custom of Senators to treat kindly their fellow Members and to speak well of them. I think that is a wonderful custom, and I have been its beneficiary on a number of occasions. But I must say, I have never been its beneficiary in such fulsome terms as were just applied to me by my friend and colleague, mentor, the senior Senator from West Virginia. I cannot claim to deserve all of those compliments, but I may appreciate them even the more for that.

I learned what I have learned in the service of the Appropriations Committee from him during his chairmanship, and the extent that I have had a success this year has been largely due to the advice and the guidance which the senior Senator from West Virginia has provided.

He has stated very well the difficulties under which this bill is presented to this body, the great contribution it makes to deficit reduction and the difficulty that that created in attempting to properly fund and instruct the agencies under its jurisdiction. I have also made a statement to that effect.

I will simply solicit the support of my colleagues for the bill which I believe reaches its goals well, considering the challenges with which we are faced, and I hope that the President will change his mind and sign it, as it will be much better than any alternative that he is likely to receive through a continuing resolution.

The yeas and nays have not been requested?

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COVERDELL). They have not.

Mr. GORTON. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the conference report to accompany H.R. 1977, the Interior appropriations bill for fiscal year 1996. The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. LOTT. I announce that the Senator from Texas [Mr. GRAMM] is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 58, nays 40, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 604 Leg.]

YEAS—58

Abraham	Gorton	McConnell
Ashcroft	Grams	Moynihan
Bennett	Grassley	Murkowski
Bond	Gregg	Nickles
Burns	Hatch	Pell
Byrd	Hatfield	Pressler
Campbell	Heflin	Reid
Chafee	Helms	Roth
Coats	Hollings	Santorum
Cochran	Hutchison	Shelby
Cohen	Inhofe	Simpson
Coverdell	Inouye	Smith
Craig	Jeffords	Specter
D'Amato	Johnston	Stevens
DeWine	Kassebaum	Thomas
Dole	Kempthorne	Thompson
Domenici	Kyl	Thurmond
Faircloth	Lott	Warner
Ford	Lugar	
Frist	Mack	

NAYS—40

Akaka	Exon	McCain
Baucus	Feingold	Mikulski
Biden	Feinstein	Moseley-Braun
Bingaman	Glenn	Murray
Boxer	Graham	Nunn
Bradley	Harkin	Pryor
Breaux	Kennedy	Robb
Brown	Kerrey	Rockefeller
Bryan	Kerry	Sarbanes
Bumpers	Kohl	Simon
Conrad	Lautenberg	Snowe
Daschle	Leahy	Wellstone
Dodd	Levin	
Dorgan	Lieberman	

NOT VOTING—1

Gramm

So, the conference report was agreed to.

Mr. GORTON. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. MCCAIN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. GORTON addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the Senator from Washington.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, before we move on to the next item, I wish to add to the list of thanks that I gave earlier in connection with this bill the name of Julie Kays from my own personal staff who has handled every aspect of this bill for me in a tremendously successful and skilled fashion.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—CONFERENCE REPORT ON
H.R. 2099

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following the disposition of H.R. 1561, the Senate proceed to the consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2099,

the VA-HUD appropriations bill, and that it be considered under the following time limitations: 30 minutes equally divided between the two managers, 10 minutes under the control of Senator BUMPERS, 10 minutes under the control of Senator HUTCHISON, 10 minutes under the control of Senator LAUTENBERG, 10 minutes under the control of Senator MCCAIN, 10 minutes under the control of Senator BOXER; further, that following the expiration or yielding back of time, the Senate proceed to vote on the conference report, and that following that vote, the Senate immediately concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate, all without any intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

FOREIGN RELATIONS
REVITALIZATION ACT

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order to make the pending business S. 908.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Under the previous order, the clerk will report S. 908, the State Department reauthorization and reorganization bill.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal years 1996 through 1999, and to abolish the United States Information Agency, the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and the Agency for International Development, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Dole amendment No. 2025, to withhold certain funds for international conferences in funds were expended for U.S. participation in the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women while Harry Wu was being detained in China.

Helms amendment No. 2031, to authorize reduced levels of appropriations for foreign assistance programs for fiscal years 1996 and 1997.

Kerry (for Boxer) amendment No. 2032 (to Amendment No. 2025), to express the sense of the Senate regarding the arrest of Harry Wu by the Government of the People's Republic of China.

Helms amendment No. 2041, to express the sense of the Congress regarding the consolidation and reinvention of the foreign affairs agencies of the United States.

Helms amendment No. 2042 (to amendment No. 2041), in the nature of a substitute.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

AMENDMENT NOS. 2025, 2031, 2032, 2041, AND 2042,
WITHDRAWN

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the pending amendments numbered 2025, 2031, 2032, 2041, and 2042 are withdrawn.

The Chair recognizes the Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. HELMS. I thank the Chair. The Chair is absolutely correct. Mr. President, I believe there is a time agreement on this of 4 hours equally divided.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct. There are 4 hours on the managers' time and the bill.

Mr. HELMS. Very well. Mr. President, before I begin, I will yield to the Senator from Montana to speak as in morning business.

I ask unanimous consent that it be in order for me to yield to the distinguished Senator 6 minutes, not to be charged to either side, at which time the time will begin running on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Montana is recognized.

GO GRIZ

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a critically important resolution. It will restore the honor of our country, and my State of Montana in particular, in the face of an impudent affront leveled against us by the Governor of West Virginia.

Let me begin with a question. What would possess as many as 5,000 Montanans to leave our beautiful State and travel to a small town in West Virginia—of all places—for the weekend?

There is only one answer—and that is Grizzly fever.

As I have proudly told many of my colleagues, the University of Montana Grizzlies are traveling to Huntington, WV, to take on the Thundering Herd of Marshall University in the NCAA, Division I-AA National Championship. And on Saturday night, they will come home to Missoula as the national champions.

It takes a good football team to get that far. But the Grizzlies are not just a good football team—they are a great football team.

How great are the Grizzlies, some may ask?

Great enough to have trounced their playoff opponents. During the three playoff games, the Grizzlies scored a total of 156 points. Their three opponents managed to score a paltry 14 points; and two out of the three playoff games were Grizzly shutouts.

And the Grizzlies are great enough to have what I believe is the finest quarterback in college football today. Dave Dickenson, from Great Falls, is a three-time first team academic all-American, a first team all-American quarterback, and Dave will probably receive the Walter Payton Award next week as the best Division I-AA player in America.

Many West Virginians—including my friends Senator BYRD and ROCKE-

FELLER—may take pride in Marshall's winning record up to this point. That is fine. I see nothing wrong with acknowledging the accomplishment of the second-best team. But Governor Caperton crossed the line when he signed a proclamation naming December 16—the day of the game—Marshall University Day.

Now, normally, I am a strong supporter of States rights. But Governor Caperton has gone too far. His proclamation is a slap in the face to me and every other self-respecting Montanan. And it is an insult to the good sense of every American who follows college football.

Mr. President, sometimes State governments make mistakes. And on occasions like this one, they are whoppers. The time has come for Congress to step in and set things right.

That is why I am introducing my resolution today. It would recognize the Montana Grizzlies as the new national champions by proclaiming all of next week Montana Grizzlies Appreciation Week. It would also declare the unfortunate, unjust, and illegitimate proclamation by the Governor of West Virginia null and void.

If you still doubt the need for this resolution, tune in on Saturday. The game starts at 10 Montana time—that's noon in Washington on ESPN. It will be a great game.

Mr. HELMS. I can see why the Senator was eager to make a speech and make a reference to Montana. I congratulate him.

FOREIGN RELATIONS REVITALIZATION ACT

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

Mr. HELMS. Here we are, Mr. President. As I was saying a few minutes ago, at long last, S. 908 is the pending business before the U.S. Senate—S. 908 being the plan to reorganize the State Department—a plan much maligned by all the bureaucrats who do not want to be folded into the State Department. They do not want to save any money. To their chagrin, it looks to me like we are going to save some money, not as much as we would have liked, but that is an issue we can work on in conference with the House. S. 908 was reported to the Senate more than 6 months ago, and I have never seen as many erroneous news reports about a piece of legislation in all of my 23 years in the Senate. The administration at every turn has vowed—and I use the administration's words—vowed to “delay, postpone, obfuscate and derail” S. 908. They made no bones about it. All of that was ignored by the great media of this country. There was just one Senator who was holding up the whole works—that fellow from North Carolina, HELMS—and they went after HELMS with a feverish attitude.

Our Democratic colleagues signed up and have refused to allow the Senate to work its will, but that did not make any difference to the news media. They

reported that it was HELMS doing the holding up, when actually it was the administration and the Democrat Members of the Senate. Now, there was one Senator who was willing to negotiate and participate in the process, Senator KERRY of Massachusetts, to whom I shall forever be grateful.

It needs to be made clear that the Senator from North Carolina has never, never demanded that I get my way as press report after press report after press report claimed. I have never demanded that the Senate accept this authorization bill or that the administration agree to downsize Government by eliminating a few Federal agencies. I have never demanded that the Senate accept this authorization bill or that the administration agree to downsize Government and abolish some Federal agencies. I had hoped all of that would happen, and the bill was drafted for that purpose, but I never made any demand for anything—except that the Senate be allowed to vote on S. 908. I said from the very beginning, “Let me have a vote and you will have your ambassadors.” I have asked only that the Senate be allowed to conduct its legislative responsibilities and vote. Not once did I stipulate that S. 908 had to pass but just that it be voted upon. But the Democrats were afraid that if it were put up for a vote, the Senate would agree to abolish three Federal agencies—what a tragedy that would have been.

Since this process began months ago, the Foreign Relations Committee has acted on at least 58 of President Clinton's ambassadorial nominees—most of them political appointees, I might add. The committee has acted on six tax treaties and assorted other international treaties in that same time period. I have asked myself many times, what have we received in return? Until this date, nothing; nothing. There goes that obfuscation, delay, postponement, derailment.

I take issue with those in the administration and with my colleagues, especially the distinguished Senator from Connecticut [Mr. DODD], who at one point asserted that it was the “height of irresponsibility to hold up nearly all other committee business over one piece of legislation.” CHRIS DODD knows better than that, Mr. President. He is in charge of the political wing of the Democratic Party. He is perhaps experiencing a convenient amnesia, forgetting that as chairman of the Foreign Relations Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere in 1992, Senator DODD himself refused to schedule any subcommittee ambassadorial nomination hearings for an entire year. So when Senator DODD made his extravagant statement, I respond, “Look who is talking.”

I could go on, but suffice it to say many of my Democrat colleagues have engaged in a bit of injured innocence when they weep such copious tears about the delay in Senate confirmation of several nominees. Now, were it not